

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES

May 31, 2011

ATTENDANCE: Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper; Sheryl Deares; Mona Figueroa; Capt. Tanya Jackson; Catherine Kansler; Robin Keener; Susan Kelly; Sharon Lipford; George Nikas; Joe Ryan; Larry Signorelli; Linda Williams

Robin Keener called the meeting to order and chaired the meeting.

Robin Keener stated the minutes of March 29, 2011 were approved online.

Robin Keener presents **Sharon Lipford** with a plaque thanking her for her dedication on the MHAAC.

Robin Keener discusses the Chairman's Report. All the groups are coming together. We will work together on all the goals. **Robin Keener** asks about housing at the detention center. **Sharon Lipford** states there will be training for June. There will be a men's pod, where men who are co-occurring will be sorted and receive mental health treatment. There will be space for treatment providers to have a desk in the pod and work with the people. **Mona Figueroa** states we will proceed with that, and we already have integration up here.

Mona Figueroa discusses the Office on Mental Health Report. **Mona Figueroa** states we received money from the MHA (Mental Health Administration) to provide services for women and/or men who have a mental illness, substance abuse, and history of trauma. We are pulling together a committee that will go to our board and we have to have our contract signed by July. We had a meeting for DataLink, and electronic system that would allow communication from the Mental Health system through the Value Options system and the Detention Center for those who have mental health issues and backgrounds. We have worked lately with Upper Bay and MHA to have Upper Bay identified as a Transitional Aged Youth Program. We had our first training to get them on board with the TIP (Transition to Independence Process) Model; this will help show how CSA's (Core Service Agency) can get things going in terms of providers and services. We are anticipating opening a new location in Edgewood called Therapeutic Living for Families.

Sheryl Deares discusses the Health Department Report. **Sheryl Deares** states the Health Department has started a specialized group for young adults ages 18-25 for services, focusing on underage drinking. Dr. Stancliff, a psychiatrist, sees patients ages 16 and above, provides evaluations and if necessary medication management. **Mona Figueroa** states we could use the Upper Bay PRP (Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program) as a new referral source. **Sheryl Deares** states we have a new counselor start tomorrow. **Susan Kelly** states the addiction budget has been cut, we will continue to provide services, and we are working on budget modifications. **Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper** asks if there is a waiting list for evaluations for treatment. **Sheryl Deares** states no. **Susan Kelly** states **Joe Ryan** partnered with DHMH (Department of Health and Mental Hygiene) and ran the program Public Health Matters which will be run again in the future. Keith Mills will be doing a video on his battle with prescription drug abuse.

Joe Ryan discusses Old Business about Underage Drinking. **Joe Ryan** states we are waiting from the Governor's Office of Crime Control Prevention as far as our grant award. We took a 21% cut from ADAA (Alcohol & Drug Abuse Administration) but they have a grant that focuses on underage drinking, so we will be focusing on the Bel Air area.

Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper discusses New Business. **Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper** states if anyone has discussed the Habitat for Humanity program. **Capt. Tanya Jackson** states the Habitat for Humanity program is a pilot program. The first build was a success and people learned to reach out to mentors. The second build wasn't as successful with the participants. The third build was unsuccessful, and we were down an officer. We are thinking of having an all women crew. **Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper** is agreeing to go out with them and build. **Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper** would also like to make a proposal for a storybook program, for the detention center, where books would be purchased in order for men/women to record their voices while reading a story to their children. She stated that she would seed the money to help get the program started. **Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper** states that those in the Habitat for Humanity program will get Errors in Thinking course.

Capt. Tanya Jackson states for the selection process, they have to spend 6 months in the detention center. **Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper** states it is a good re-entry program.

Joe Ryan states 800 pounds of medication were turned in on National Take Back Day. **Susan Kelly** asks if this will be a regular occurrence, **Joe Ryan** states yes. Teen Court has started, it is a diversion court for juveniles, and the next one is scheduled for June 16. **Susan Kelly** asks how you recruit students. **Joe Ryan** states through the school. The students go through training, and it will start back up in September. The Annual Symposium is scheduled for June 28 at Bel Air High School.

Larry Signorelli discusses Family Anonymous. Family Anonymous is a support system for those families who have loved ones dealing with substance abuse and mental illness. We provide support while not enabling. It is a 12 step program, it is a nationwide group, and we meet at St. Margaret's and make lots of referrals. **Honorable Judge Mimi Cooper** asks how I can spread the word. **Larry Signorelli** states he will bring brochures to the next meeting but you can Google it. **Mona Figueroa** states if they just show up, will they be welcome, **Larry Signorelli** states yes.

Sharon Lipford states Harford County has formed MAP (Maryland Access Point). We have funding to get started, and will be calling a meeting. It is one central website to handle resources. The MAP Program is to streamline, states **Susan Kelly**. **Sharon Lipford** states Joe Cassilly called a meeting and pulled together a work group to begin to look at ways to open communication called Vulnerable Adults.

Mona Figueroa states the Childhood Trauma Conference is June 1; the Mental Health CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Training is June 10; Targeted Mental Health Response is June 15; and Mental Health and Loss Symposium is June 24.

Adjournment